Church Life

Vol. V. FEBRUARY, 1908. No. 2.

Reports of Officers and Societies.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PASTOR.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Last February I was asked by the Baptist laymen of Chicago to be their representative at the Centenary Missionary Conference at Shanghai. They not only honored me and the church by this selection, but they most generously subscribed $530 toward the expenses of the trip. The Baptist Ministers' Conference of Chicago endorsed this action of the laymen. You, as a church, showed your confidence in me and your love for me by co-operating heartily with the laymen and clergymen of the city. By a unanimous vote you granted me the leave of absence necessary for the accomplishment of my commission, and contributed also $300 toward the expenses of my trip. You thus made it possible for me to take a memorable journey, such a journey as seldom falls to the lot of any save men of wealth and leisure. My journey took me completely around the world, and here and there quite away from the line of tourist travel. Though far more expensive than I anticipated, the entire cost of the trip has been $2,200, I feel amply repaid by the opportunity it afforded me for an intimate view of conditions in the Orient, a clearer understanding of mission work in all its phases, a more intelligent conception of the vast problems which face the Christian Church, and a broader outlook on the world field. It is my most earnest desire to make all this added knowledge serviceable to you as a church. The pulpit was supplied during my absence by men of exceptional ability and rare pulpit power. The burden of the pastoral work was borne by Mr. Kennan, and his effective service was manifest in the strength and zeal which continued to characterize all departments of our church life. The people of the church, with that fine spirit which they so well know how to evince in every time of need, rallied bravely and well, and I found everything in excellent condition at the time of my return. I cannot speak too strongly of my appreciation of the loyalty and unselfishness which have been your constant characteristic as a church. Though profoundly conscious of my unworthiness of all your loving words and deeds in my behalf I want to express my sincere desire to use and be used in your service.

THE RAYMOND FIELD.

The work at Raymond Chapel deserves the special and abiding interest of those who have taken a personal part in its upbuilding. After three years of faithful service, during a very critical period in its history, Mr. Embree resigned the leadership of this branch of our church to accept the pastorate of the important church at Marengo, Ill., where he has entered upon a noble and aggressive ministry.

The church called to succeed him Rev. W. Thurston Gibbs, who, with his wife, has settled on the field and is carrying forward with great vigor the various activities in this section. Special meetings have recently been held under the direction of the Volunteers of America, but resulted in no additions to the church. It used to be said, some six or seven years ago, that a majority of the baptisms at the Home Church were of converts won on the Raymond field. During 1907, of 44 baptisms, not one was from that field. Let us all pray most earnestly that the power of the Holy Spirit may be peculiarly manifest, and the hearts of the devoted workers be encouraged.

THE MEMBERSHIP.

The report of the Church Clerk indicates an addition of 90 to our membership during the year. This number has not been exceeded in any year of my pastorate. The number of baptisms is considerably larger than in any previous year. A good many of the names of delinquents were dropped at the close of the year, but in spite of this fact the report shows a net increase of twenty-seven.

One of the most pleasing features in connection with the new members who have come to us in the course of the past few months, is to be found in the large proportions of these who have entered at once into active co-operative relationship with the activities of our church. The treasurer's books show that nearly all of them have become regular supporters of the church. More than 20 of these new members have also taken up definite work in connection with the church, the Sunday School, and Raymond Chapel. Thus, in the matter of active and wide-awake membership we have gained substantially during the year, as we have also gained in numbers.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Some twenty-seven of the number baptized have come from our home Sunday School. This has been due to no special and spasmodic ef-

forts, sweeping in a great number of little children from the primary classes, as the custom is in so many of our churches. Beginning early in December a year ago the teachers of the Intermediate Department met with the Superintendent of the Sunday School and the Pastor in special services of prayer and conference. The teachers supplemented the work of these meetings by careful and thorough personal efforts with their pupils. By this means they were led to give themselves, in thoughtful consecration, to the Lord Jesus Christ. An examination of the Communion records for the entire year shows that the great majority of these young people have been faithful attendants at the Lord's Table since the time that they became Christians. The same method is being pursued this winter, and we believe that similar results will follow.

Mr. Whitmore's vigorous and eminently successful leadership of the school has been carried forward with consecrated devotion by his successor, Mr. Piercey. Those of us who are most intimately connected with the school have regarded with admiring gratitude the untiring labors of the Superintendent. It is doubtful if any school in the city has a stronger corps of Superintendents than ours at the present time possesses, in the persons of Mr. Piercey, Dr. Kelly, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. McCullough, and Mrs. Lumley.

The pathetic and even startling indifference of the parents of this neighborhood to the religious condition of their own children makes the task of our Sunday School a peculiarly difficult one, and the hearty and helpful co-operation of the entire church in this branch of our work is imperatively necessary.

The Adult Class, under Deacon Ahrens' direction, has been a strong factor in the life of the school and the Training Class, under Mrs. Ware's supervision, promises to be increasingly important.

MISS VAN FLEET'S RESIGNATION.

In the Sunday School as elsewhere the resignation of Miss Van Fleet will result in the weakening of the work, unless there is a united move forward on the part of teachers and officers, and the church at large. Miss Van Fleet has been unremitting and faithful in all the many activities in which she has engaged. Too much cannot be said in praise of her grand and selfless service.

THE PASTOR'S AID.

Just prior to my departure for the Orient, but before I had any idea that such a trip was in store for me, I organized a small company of ladies as an auxiliary to the Board of Deacons, for work in connection with various church duties, which were not being performed by any other group of church officers. During my absence no meetings were held, but in the last few months this organization, known as the Pastor's Aids, have been meeting frequently and have helped me greatly in many ways. Under this direction a strong committee of ladies has been appointed, to furnish flowers for the pulpit each Sunday. Their gracious ministry appears each week in the beautiful flowers which enhance the attractiveness of our audience-room. A committee of the Christian Endeavor Society has charge of the distribution of these flowers on Monday morning to the sick in hospitals and elsewhere. The Pastor's Aids have recently agreed, with the help of the Benevolent Society, to take charge of the great Church Social, soon to be held.

OUR SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES.

To the much appreciated and most inspiring music of our organist, Mr. Havens, and the quartette, there has recently been added the services of a Choral Club. With the full approval and hearty support of Mr. Havens and the Music Committee, Dr. Williams has organized and trained this firm body of singers. They have given delight to the audiences on Sunday evenings. More than this, their music has been uplifting and spiritually helpful. Though the congregations have not been larger than before, this fact is no indication of lack of appreciation, but merely a feature of the prevailing and utter indifference of the migratory population which now surrounds our church to all religious services. The members of the church seem to find it increasingly difficult to be present, so that we have two entirely different congregations, in the morning and in the evening. The number of young people and strangers at our evening services is large and the attention given is often profound. As I always count the people who are present and keep a record of it, I am glad to be able to report that the evening congregations show no decrease in five years. We are "holding our own" quite easily, but by special work we should do more than that.

BRINGING THE CHURCH TOGETHER.

The Pastor suggested to the Deacons and Trustees the inauguration of a series of general church socials, to be held during the autumn and winter. The idea was heartily endorsed by the members of the two boards. The first of these gatherings took the form of a roll-call, the first in the history of the church. It was successful beyond our expectations, owing largely to the efforts of Deacon Mallory and those associated with him in the arrangements. Though it was held on a week evening some 350 members were present, or sent letters expressing their irterest, and about 400 people were present. The spirit of Christian love and cordial good fellowship will not soon be forgotten. The second of these gatherings, taking the form of a general social, will be held the last of the present month.

A NEW SYSTEM OF GIVING.

The weekly offering system is by no means a new one, but until recent years it has not been widely adopted for the raising of benevolences. The churches which have adopted it, both for current expenses and benevolences, testify quite unanimously to its success. It has been tried in a tentative way in our church since the first of last April. The benevolences within that period of eight months have been considerably larger than in the previous year under the old system. This year we fully inaugurate the new plan, and the result of its full and satisfactory trial this year will doubtless govern the action of the church in reference to its continuance. My own very strong belief is that this system is vastly superior to

the method formerly in vogue. To depend upon intermittent appeals from various societies and interests seems to me far less connected with the spirit of Christ's teaching, and far less effective in a practical way, and far less educative in its effect and far less business-like than the regular wise and unduly method of definite weekly contributions.

THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.

The heroic labors of Treasurer Whitemore in securing $3,000 in addition to all the amount necessary for current expenses, deserves our unqualified graitude. An achievement that was thought by many to be impossible, especially in view of the prevailing financial stress. has been carried to a triumphant issue. On the first Sunday of the current year the announcement sent by our Treasurer from his bed of sickness, that the whole amount had been secured, sent a thrill of joy through all our hearts, and it was fitting that we should sing with thankful and rejoicing spirit, the Doxology, and sing it twice for the victory was noble and noteworthy. It was a tribute to the talent and energy of our Treasurer and to the generosity of our people. It is also a fact worth noting that at the close of our Jubilee service on January 5, when we met to observe the Lord's Supper, the number of our members who partook of the Communion together was larger, with one exception, than it has been on any similar occasion during the entire five years of my pastorate. The single exception was a day when Communion Sunday and Easter Sunday fell together, and the congregation was swelled by the customary Easter attendance. The number present at every Communion service since my return in the summer has been encouragingly large.

Let me say a word further regarding the financial outlook from which subject I have wandered a little. It seems to me advisable that the church should be presented by the Trustees at the beginning of each year with a budget, carefully indicating the various items of expense for the entire year, and that appeal should be made on the basis of this budget. If, in addition to this the Treasurer would publish each month or two in CHURCH LIFE, an account of receipts and expenditures, and show also in tabulated form, the receipts from all subscribers to the weekly offering system, indicating these by number, not by name, it would greatly increase the interest of the church at large in the financial side of our work.

THE PRAYER MEETING.

My words have naturally inclined toward comparisons, as I have drawn near to the close of my fifth year as your Pastor. In our prayer meetings in the last few months we have had frequently seasons of as deep spiritual power as I have known, here or elsewhere. The Spirit of God has been with us. Let us pray that the result may be an abundant and glorious making of revival zeal.

OUR NEXT GREAT WORK.

The appointment by the church of a strong committee of fifteen, under the chairmanship of Mr. Clifford Williams, to provide funds for the cancellation of the mortgages on the lot south of the church building, was one of the events of prime importance in the history of the past year. At least one church in our vicinity, formerly one of the most important in the city, having today a splendid edifice, a remarkably vigorous and eloquent pastor, and providing musical programs of superior excellence, is considering the question of withdrawal to some other part of the city. Another church is struggling against heavy odds. Several others have abandoned their Sunday evening services. In contrast we may well rejoice in the solidity and promise of our own church work. The success of the recent financial campaign of our Treasurer, the fact that we have lost very few liberal givers within the past two or three years (and I know this to be absolutely true because I have looked the matter up with great care), the fact that some of the largest pledges for the year 1908 are from people who were not members with us until recently, and the fact that so many of our new members are entering cordially into the spirit of our life and into the realm of definite practical activity, should all be to us encouraging signs, pointing to the necessity for definite action in the near future, looking to the entire removal of the debt on the vacant lot, and the establishment of such a work for the community at large as has been the salvation of many churches similarly situated in other cities. We surely owe to our Lord a superb service of consecration in the foundation and equipment of such a work.

Faithfully yours,

AUSTEN K. DE BLOIS.

WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

MRS. S. B. LINGLE.

The regular meeting of the Circle on January 10, found our numbers thinned by the prevailing illness. Only thirty-two were in attendance.

The program on the Island World still held our interest, and as we listened to the miracles wrought by God in transforming the savage, superstitious peoples of the Henry Island, New Zealand, the Fijies and New Hebrides, we were thankful to have some share in this great work of world evangelization.

Mrs. Williams read an appreciative letter from the missionary in Portland to whom the barrels proved most acceptable.

On the second Friday in February the annual meeting of the Circle will be held, at which time officers and committees will be chosen for the coming year.

If you want to please God do not be ashamed to wear the beacon light of a Christian in your cap, so that people know you ar a servant of God when you pass by.

Do not be afraid of the great rocks that loom up so often at the turn of the road when you start out on your Christian journey; give your hand to God and He will help you over the stumbling places without difficulty.

The pastor is the headlight of the engine, but without wheels the engine cannot reach its destination.

When you start out on your Christian career take a pair of crutches made of faith with you, for the devil is ever ready to bring about an accident that may disable you.

First Baptist Church, Chicago.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1907.

Receipts.

For Current Expenses.

Cash on Hand January 1, 1907		$ 101.60	
Basket Collections	$ 951.21		
Weekly Envelopes	3,391.09		
Pew Rents	4,184.64		
Subscription and Contribution	2,600.99		
Subscription for Sunday School	157.98	11,285.91	
Total received for Current Expenses		11,387.51	
Cash from Special Subscription for Debt		3,009.60	
Total received for Current Expense and Debt			$14,397.11

For Benevolences.

American Baptist Home Mission Society	$ 246.70		
American Baptist Missionary Union	440.30		
American Baptist Publication Society	37.23		
North Western Baptist Educational Society	18.24		
State Mission	61.85		
Home for Aged Ministers	20.74		
Baptist City Mission Society	30.22		
Chicago Tract Society	18.24		
Chicago Baptist Hospital	20.24		
Chicago Baptist Orphanage	29.79		
Anti-Saloon League of Illinois	15.16		
Chicago Bureau of Charities	12.16		
Pacific Garden Mission	12.66		
Receipts (paid from envelopes)	24.25		
Undesignated	84.76	1,072.54	
Chinese Mission	10.00		
Charity (needy child)	51.00		
Illinois Industrial School for Girls	13.05	74.05	
Total Received for Benevolences			$1,146.59

Miscellaneous Accounts.

To Cr. of Susan J. Pope Fund, Jan. 1, 1907	500.00		
To Cr. of Raymond Chapel Fund, Jan. 1, 1907	41.73	541.73	
Pope Memorial (Int. for six months)	12.50		
Acousticon Fund	100.00		
Mortgage Fund	482.02		
Raymond Chapel Fund	10.00		
Evangelistic Meetings	145.28		
Pastor's Oriental Trip	305.00		
Illinois Trust & Svs. Bank, Act. Mortgage Fund	418.31		
Illinois Trust & Svs. Bank, Act. Drake Fund	81.61		
Open Air Meeting Fund	49.20	1,603.92	
Total received for Miscellaneous Account			$2,145.65
Total Receipts for the Year			$17,689.35

TREASURER'S REPORT, A. D., 1907.

(Continued.)

DISBURSEMENTS.

Acct. Current Expenses and Debts.

Salaries Bal. Due Jan. 1, 1907	833.33		
Salaries Paid for 1907	7,045.16	7,878.49	
Music (Choir)		2,191.00	
Stenographer (for Pastor)		25.00	
Pulpit Supplies		195.00	
Lighting and Heating		829.35	
Printing and Postage		133.05	
Sundry Small Bills		184.42	
Repairs		266.92	
Interest		357.55	
Insurance		10.00	
Annual Roll Call		20.31	
Chicago Baptist Association		15.00	
Sunday School		149.93	
Evangelistic Meetings		26.47	12,282.54
Bills Payable		500.00	
Special Ass'ment, Paving 31st St. Act. Church		124.51	
" " " " Raymond Chapel		49.95	
Acousticon Co.		3.00	677.46
Total Paid Act. Current Expense and Debts			12,960.00
Balance for Current Expense and Debts			$1,437.11

Account Benevolences.

American Baptist Home Mission Society	118.00	
American Baptist Missionary Union	233.18	
American Baptist Publication Society	7.00	
Envelope and Pledge Cards	24.25	
Chinese Mission	10.00	
Charity (needy child)	51.00	
Illinois Industrial School for Girls	13.05	
Total Paid Account Benevolences		456.48
Balance Amount Due Acct. Benevolences		690.11

Miscellaneous Accounts.

Pope Memorial Fund (bought Fisher Bldg 5% bonds)	500.00	
Pope Memorial, Paid Interest to Sunday School	12.50	
Dep. Ill. Trust & Svs. Bank, Act. Mortgage Fund	482.02	
Acousticon	100.00	
Raymond Chapel Building Fund	51.73	
Evangelistic Meetings	145.28	
Pastor's Oriental Trip	305.00	
Redeemed Bonds (Act. Mortgage Fund)	418.31	
Account Drake Fund	81.61	
Open Air Meeting Fund	46.20	
Total Paid Act. Miscellaneous Accounts		2,142.65
Balance		3.00
Total Disbursements for the Year		15,559.13
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements		2,130.22
		17,689.35

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, SEPT. 1, 1907.

ASSETS

Cash, Account General Fund	20.81		
Cash, Acount Benevolences	252.11	272.92	
Cash, Ill. Trust & S. Bank, Act. Mortgage Fund	354.06		
Cash, Ill. Trust & S. Bank, Act. Drake Fund	411.67	765.73	
Balance, Liabilities over Assets			1,038
			3,184
			4,223

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, DEC. 31, 1907.

ASSETS (EXCLUSIVE OF PROPERTY)

Cash to Cr. of Special Sub. for Debt and Int.	1,266.22		
Subscribed (not paid, but good)	240.00	1,506.22	
Cash to Credit of Benevolences	690.11		
Cash to Credit of General Fund	173.89	864.00	2,370.2

Accounts Receivable.

Pew Rents (good)	150.00		
Weekly Pledges (good)	80.00		
Subscriptions (good)	250.00		480.0
Cash Deposited in Illinois Trust & Savings Bank to Credit Drake Fund		416.67	
To Credit Mortgage Fund		247.96	664.6
E. & O. E.			$3,514.8

(NOTE)—You have a lot at Highland Park, Ill., (unincumbered) estimate, $200, and fifty feet on South Park boulevard, which cost $6,100, on which there are two mortgages, one for $3,000 and a balance on second mortgage of $2,200, making $5,200 in indebtedness on said lot.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

The Treasurer's books show that the following envelopes owe on pledges for *Current Expenses,* for 1907, the amount opposite the number.

If any errors or omissions are discovered, they will be corrected promptly.

Those owing less than $1.00, and there are quite a number, are not published.

No. 17, due	$8.25	No. 104, due	1.3
No. 37, due	5.10	No. 108, due	5.7
No. 39, due	13.00	No. 113, due	2.8
No. 43, due	2.25	No. 120, due	2.0
No. 48, due	2.25	No. 122, due	8.5
No. 56, due	2.20	No. 125, due	3.0
No. 58, due	1.70	No. 127, due	2.0
No. 87, due	2.75	No. 136, due	3.0
No. 88, due	2.75	No. 138, due	2.5
No. 89, due	2.40	No. 143, due	1.0
No. 94, due	1.35	No. 146, due	4.9
No. 97, due	4.50	No. 154, due	2.5
		No. 164, due	1.5
		No. 188, due	1.7
		No. 194, due	2.3
		No. 197, due	18.0
		No. 201, due	3.2
		No. 206, due	2.6
		No. 213, due	2.6
		No. 214, due	1.2
		No. 215, due	10.5
		No. 219, due	4.1
		No. 223, due	1.6
		No. 224, due	2.9
		No. 230, due	1.7
		No. 235, due	1.0
		No. 241, due	9.5
		No. 243, due	5.4
		No. 244, due	2.6
		No. 249, due	5.0
		No. 252, due	5.3

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, SEPT. 1, 1907.
(Continued.)

LIABILITIES SEPT. 1, 1907.

Benevolences	252.11		
Mortgage Fund	354.06		
Drake Fund	792.07	1,398.24	
Salaries	316.67		
Music (Choir)	110.00		
Repairs	104.73		
Interest	15.00		
Acoustic Co.	3.00		
Sunday School	94.20		
Neal & Co.	486.77	1,130.37	
Bills Payable		1,000.00	
Special Ass'mt, Paving 31st St., Act. Church		444.69	3,973.30
" " " Act. Raymond Chapel (Not known at time Church was told of $3,000.00 debt)			249.75
Total Liabilities (not including Mortgage on Lot Adjacent to Church)			4.223.05

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, DEC. 31, 1907.
(Continued.)

LIABILITIES DEC. 31, 1907.
Liabilities Exclusive of Mortgage.

Owing on Debts (Exclusive of Mortgages)	1,506.22		
Owing on Benevolences	690.11		
Owing to Sundry Accounts (General Fund)	253.80	2,450.13	
Due Mortgage Fund	247.96		
Due Drake Fund	416.67	664.63	3,114.76
Balance (Assets over Liabilities)			400.09
			3,514.85

E. & O. E.

Chicago, December 31, 1907. C. E. WHITMORE, Treasurer.

TREASURER'S COLUMN.

Out of Debt. It was a great relief when, on January 1 we found there was a sufficient amount, in cash and subscriptions, to pay all obligations, with the exception of the two mortgages, one for $3,000, and a balance of $2,200 on the other, on the lot adjoining thechurch.

The Next Problem is to *keep* out of debt. There is but one way, "pay as we go," and the only way to do that, is by *all* giving what they can afford.

We must remember the church is not a corporation or business firm, with capital stock or collateral on which to borrow money for expenses, but is entirely dependent upon the voluntary offerings and pew rents from month to month. If we fail either to contribute enough or to pay promptly, the church will be in debt to that amount.

There are some who have the impression that our pew rents meet current expenses. While it is true that the proceeds from pew rents are thus applied, they fall far short of meeting expenses. It is therefore necessary that every member of the church and congregation should be a contributer, even if he can give but a small amount weekly.

Weekly Pledges. We hope for 350 weekly pledges for 1908; thus far we have 260. Won't you take the next number? Please state on pledge card the amount you intend giving each week—this is very important, that we may know what to count on. It is also important that you place the money in the side of the envelope where it belongs. All pledges, by those who were members of the church on January 1, 1908, will date from that date unless otherwise specified. We miss the names of a number this year who took envelopes last year. It is undoubtedly thoughtlessness, and you will probably take them nevt Sunday—for we are confident that you will not miss this pleasant and satisfactory part of your worship.

Remember 350 is our mark for this year and we'll stick to it, until they come.

For Current Expenses. Up to the present time the pledges for current expenses aggre- $3,034.72 for the year, as compared with receipts from this source last year of $3,391.09, a falling off of $357.63.

For Benevolences. They are, up to present time, $1,366.88, an increase over receipts from this source last year of $294.34, and an increase over receipts for regular benevolent objects in 1906, of some $425. It is our duty to give you the facts, that you may decide whether or not we can afford to run in debt

for our own expenses in order to help other worthy objects.

Basket Collections. Our receipts from this source should be at least $1,500 per year, but they are less than $1,000. Won't you help us in this, notwithstanding the fact that you are contributing in other ways? There are many in the church by whom 5 or 10 cents a Sunday would never be missed, and others would not miss 25 cents. The more we receive from this source the less we will have to raise by special appeal. Not only that, but still more important is the influence on the stranger sitting by your side; it is contagious and many will follow your example. We ask all, including the strangers whom we are always glad to welcome, to help us in this direction. Please try it and watch for results.

Reminders. The most agreeable and least expensive way of reminding those who are in arrears, on weekly pledges, is to publish the number of the envelope, with the amount charged on the book against it. You will find these, for *current expenses* for last year, in another column. Please look them over carefully and see if your number is there. Probably it is not, but it *may* be.

In this connection, we would remind those who have not paid their subscription to church debts, that the money would be very acceptable, as we wish to pay all of said debts as soon as possible.

UNUSUAL EXPENSES.

We would call your attention to the following facts:

First—The expense for necessary repairs on the church is liable to be large for the next two years.

Second—The house must be rewired.

Third—Assessments for improvements on South Park Boulevard must be provided for.

We can not tell just when we will be called on to do either or all of above, but are liable to be at any time. We would, therefore, suggest the creation of a sinking fund to be kept intact for unusual expenses.

There are many who are especially blessed during the year for which they would like to contribute something extra to the Lord's work —and there is no better place to put it than to the credit of said "Sinking Fund."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR.

Rev. Austen K. de Blois:

"Of making many (reports) there is no end," and in order at least to appear in the procession, it is necessary for me to add my mite to the list.

My work during the year has been varied enough to avoid monotony, and plenty enough to keep me from such mischief as is found for idle hands to do. At the beginning of the year, owing to the ill-health of the superintendent-elect of the Primary Department, I was asked to take charge of this department, which I did, as best I could, for a period of about four months, until Mrs. Thomas felt able to take up the work. This work was very pleasant and interesting, as is all that which has to do with children and youth.

During the same period I had charge of the Children's Congregation, which met Sunday afternoons. These meetings consisted of services similar to the regular church service, including a sermonette to the boys and girls, and for a time were quite attractive to those for whom they were intended.

On the departure of Dr. de Blois for his trip to the Orient, early in March, the general care of the whole church came on my shoulders, and for the four months of our pastor's absence, it was my effort to keep in touch with all departments of the church work and keep up the interest as far as possible. During March two weeks of extra meetings were held under the leadership of Dr. Dixon, of the Chicago Ave. Church. These meetings were very helpful to all who attended, and while the visible results were not what had been hoped the effect of the meetings was decidedly for good. Dr. Dixon presented the Gospel messages in a very forceful and masterly manner. The pulpit committee secured able supplies for the pulpit during Dr. de Blois' absence, and the congregation was as good as could be expected.

I have had charge of the Home Department of the Sunday School during the year, and have kept the members supplied with quarterlies, and entered their reports as they were received. During one quarter over half of the visitors were either ill or away from the city, and the visitation fell to my lot. While the department shows a reduction in members for the year, this reduction is merely nominal, for it was largely caused by the dropping of members who have done nothing in the department since some time before I took charge. There are still some on the roll who make no reports, and as nearly all of these live out of the city, it is difficult to know what to do with them. The list of members as it is, however, represents, as a rule, those who are interested and active in the study.

The regular issue of the CHURCH LIFE has taken two or three days of work each month, and the special directory number required a large amount of work in order to get the directory as correct as possible.

The weekly calendar requires some time and thought each month, and its preparation has been in my hands all of the time, except during my vacation in the summer.

I have not kept a complete record of the number of calls I have made during the year, nor of meetings attended, but can assure you that these were sufficiently numerous to take up all of the time that could be spared from other duties, and the need of more calling is always pressing.

I have preached ten sermons at the home church, including two at open-air meetings, besides the sermonette Children's Day and those given before the Children's Congregation. I have also preached three or four times at Raymond Chapel. Have led twenty-two prayer meetings, taught the Men's League class some, and Sunday School classes frequently, assisted in the regular church services, helped sing in the male octette and quartette almost weekly in the Men's League and frequently in other services, sang in the Choral Club, taught a Mission study class in the Christian Endeavor Society, served on various committees, had

charge of about a dozen funeral services, and officiated at several weddings, conducted two services at the Baptist Hospital, and in other ways, tried to make myself generally useful. If I haven't succeeded in this attempt it has been from lack of ability rather than lack of either opportunity or effort.

I wish to express by gratitude to the members of the church for their uniform kindness, and to express my appreciation of the cordial relations existing between the pastor and the various officers of the church and myself. It is a pleasure to work in a company where such good fellowship reigns. Praying that the rich blessing of our Heavenly Father may rest on all our labors together.

Yours in the Church of Christ,
R. R. KENNAN.

REPORT OF WORK AT RAYMOND MISSION FOR LAST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1907.

The work accomplished at Raymond Mission by the pastor on the field and his wife, has shown the marked approval of God. It has been accomplished despite the surrounding circumstances and the disinterestedness of some who should have come up to the help of the Lord against the devil and his cohorts.

When the work was begun those in attendance upon services Sunday evenings were from 12 to 18; Christian Endeavor, 3 to 10; prayer meeting, 3 to 10, and Sunday School, 100 to 120; but for the last three months they have increased so that the evening audiences run from 80 to 100; Christian Endeavor, 45 to 65; prayer meeting about 30, and Sunday School has reached 160. These figures alone are gratifying, but when the marked attention and interest is taken into consideration, there should be great thankfulness returned to God for His many blessings to us.

One of the greatest points of encouragement is the number of children attending all the services and their willingness to assist whenever asked. All those, both old and young, who attend prayer meeting take an active part as opportunity is offered.

In the early part of December the officers of the Volunteers of America spent a week with us in charge of the services every evening and their earnest Christian lives and testimonies did much to cheer and warm the hearts of the people.

The Girls' Chorus Choir trained by Mrs. Gibbs has been of much assistance in the service. A number have aided us from time to time with special music; the people on the field have nearly all responded heartily to any call we have felt to make upon them.

The pastor in charge and his wife during Rev. Kennan's absence on his two months' vacation took charge of the Home paper, CHURCH LIFE, the Calendar notices for city papers and the Open Air meetings at which a number took a stand for Christ. They also supplied classes in the Home Sunday School during the vacation months.

In looking forward to the future there are some bright prospects, but the people would all feel greatly encouraged if the members of the Home Church would show their interest in Raymond, their child, by calling over and seeeing them that they may feel that they are wanted and will be welcomed when they go home.

Below is a brief report of some work done during the eight months by pastor in charge:

Calls made	720
Sermons delivered	50
Meetings led	155
Classes taught	43
Services attended	292
Letters written	575

RAYMOND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

I took up the work at Raymond as Superintendent of the Sunday School the first of the year under rather discouraging circumstances. The school was very heavily in debt, the library in bad condition, and there was a great lack of system in nearly all departments of the work.

The pastor in charge left the first of the year and eight teachers resigned. Being a stranger to the field I had just begun to get hold of the work when our new pastor in charge came onto the field in May. During the year we feel that much has been accomplished. The library, under the charge of Mr. Lester Groom and Mr. Stephen de Blois, has been put in fine shape and is being managed under a fine system. The Primary Department, under Miss Anna Shrigley, has been finely managed and has grown rapidly. A Cradle Roll Department of 18 members, under the care of Mrs. Gibbs, has been added and 150 new singing books purchased and paid for. We now have 22 workers, most of whom are earnest and faithful.

We joined with the home school for our picnic, and enjoyed the day very much. Children's Day all the children were given plants to brighten their homes.

Several conferences of teachers and workers have been held and the system in the school is much improved. We have had four entertainments, a Tennessee Concert Company, Stereopticon Entertainment, Social for the Primary Department and a Christmas Cantata. All were well attended and pronounced a success. The Cantata was especially worth mentioning as it was the best we have ever attended. About 50 of the younger ones in the Intermediate Department and ten from the Adult Classes executed this Cantata which had in it 21 new pieces of music.

The Sunday School of a small Baptist Church at East Grove, through its kindness and generosity, made it possible for us to give a few of our needy families on the field a Christmas time. We feel that the year has been one of steady growth, interest and effective work, and we look forward to the year upon which we have just entered with considerable hope and encouragement, nearly out of debt and with many good workers.

DR. F. H. KELLY

RAYMOND CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

The past year has been a successful one for the Christian Endeavor Society at Raymond Chapel. Every meeting has been a good one and the room which has been used for

purpose is often filled to its utmost capacity.

The treasury never was in better condition. We have on hand $12.30, $5.00 of which belongs to the Missionary fund. This money has been raised by a collection taken up at each meeting. It has been decided to raise $25 as our share of the church expenses. This will mean some effort on our part, but we hope to fulfill our obligations. Although most of our old membership is now practically gone, we are constantly adding new members to our society.

A basket picnic was held in August at Washington Park, and a social was held in connection with the Raymond Boys' Club on Hallowe'en.

On Friday, January 10, a meeting was held at the home of the President, Mrs. Gibbs, and the following officers were nominated:

President—Miss Sophie Oleson.
Vice-President—Mr. Phares Minnich.
Secretary—Miss Bessie Hamilton.
Treasurer—Mr. Roy Wadie.
Prayer Meeting Chairman—Mrs. W. Thurston Gibbs.
Lookout Committee Chairman—Mr. Phares Minnich.
Social Committee Chairman—Mr. Clayton Crumb.
Missionary Committee Chairman—Mr. John Parker.
Sunday School and Visiting Chairman—Miss Minnie Wolf.
Flower Committee Chairman—Miss Lela Minnich.

The outlook for the future is bright and we hope to see much accomplished, both in deeds done and members gained.

MISS SOPHIE OLESON,
Secretary.

RAYMOND JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

The Junior Society is only about fifteen months old, but is very active under its Superintendent, Mr. Charles Edling. They started in the year with 23 members and now have 45. Their attendance is good and interest fine. December 29 they took up a collection of $1.50 for the Orphans' Home. July 1 they had their annual picnic at Washington Park and were after treated to a trolley ride by the Street Car Company. On October 10 they held their annual party at the church and on December 25 held their rally.

An outing in the country next summer for the members has been planned and expenses have already been provided for.

Their activity would do credit to a much older body of Christians.

RAYMOND LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

The Raymond Ladies' Aid Society are very well pleased with the work accomplished during the year. Although a small band of workers we have accomplished much because of enthusiasm and concentration. We have succeeded in buying a new sewing machine and many other needed articles.

Besides two sales and a social we have made twelve comforts, four quilts and a number of garments which have been sold. We closed the year with all expenses paid and $27.80 in our treasury. We feel that the hand of God has been with us guiding us.

Believing His blessing will continue with us we have pledged $100 toward the work at the Chapel for 1908.

MRS. E. M. WISEMAN,
Secretary.

THE RAYMOND GIRLS' GUILD.

Closes the year with a membership of 42. The girls are from 15 to 20 years of age. They have held weekly meetings for sewing and reading, give a few socials during the year and served five suppers for the girls. Miss Sophie Oleson is the president.

RAYMOND BOYS' CLUB.

The Raymond Boys' Club is made up of a fine class of boys about 14 years old. They have a few games and some gymnasium equipments, which help to make a pleasurable and profitable Saturday evening for them.

They gave an entertainment in October and raised $15.75, which was used to buy lumber with which to finish off a room in which to keep their property when not in use.

Mr. Buehlow very kindly did the work, making no charges. They have now a fine punching bag and stand, turning pole and a few games. They are thoroughly organized and have the services of Mr. Fred Hetsel for gymnasium trainer. They have now 18 members and have had to refuse to take in any more till more equipment can be provided. This branch of the work should appeal to you with telling effect. They have arrangements all made to go into camp next summer and have a week or two of outdoor enjoyment.

Mr. Howard Rader, 3022 Poplar avenue, is their genial President, who would welcome a visit from all.

Mr. Edling also has this work under his supervision, and is pushing it forward.

RAYMOND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The Raymond Industrial School, under the charge of Miss Jessie Chandler, has had a year of success.

The work was broken into in February by the measles and again in early winter; the numbers were greatly lessened by much sickness, but in spite of these obstacles the sewing school has done some good work and the improvement in work done has been very marked.

The Kindergarten department, under the charge of Miss Sophie Oleson is doing good work.

Two classes in Manual Training have been organized but the work is still in its infancy and it will be some time ere they will be doing the desired work. The boys show great interest in the work and we trust will soon have one who will be enabled to lead them forward to success.

Miss Chandler arranged a fine entertainment for them at Christmas time, after which she gave them a treat of candy and pop-corn. The teachers also remembered them handsomely.

The work is being pushed forward as rapidly as money is provided and the demands make it advisable and we can see great possibilities for the work as we look into the future under its present manager.

CHORAL CLUB.

The Choral Club of the First Baptist Church dates from Saturday evening, October 5, 1907. At that time about twenty of the young people of the church and congregation gathered in the church parlor, adopted a constitution and elected the following officers for one year:

President—Mr. H. F. Mallory.
Secretary—Miss Hattie Todd.
Treasurer—Mr. Robert Leland.
Librarian—Mr. Samuel Lingle.
Musical Director—Dr. Carver Williams.

The object of the organization is to furnish an opportunity for those having musical ability to develop and use the same in the worship of God. The club has met each week on Saturday evening for practice and has rendered music in connection with the Sunday evening services, regularly, since October 27. It contributed special numbers to the Christmas and New Year's programs, both morning and evening.

Following is the statistical report of the Secretary:

The Choral Club held its first regular meeting October 5. There have been held twenty-five meetings, including rehearsals and Sunday services. Sixty names have been enrolled on the Secretary's book. Nineteen of these have been dropped from the list, fifteen, because of non-attendance, three because they were with us for the Christmas music only and one, Mr. Fred Allen, by death. This leaves a total enrollment of forty-one.

An honor roll has been kept of these forty-one. Those never absent after enrollment from either rehearsals or Sunday service are:

Miss Florence Raymond.
Miss Hattie Todd.

Those absent but once:
Mrs. Mallory.
Miss Kitzman.
Mr. Baird.
Dr. Gale.

Those absent but twice:
Miss Ware.
Mrs. Mallory.

Those absent but three times:
Miss Clara de Clerq.
Miss Blanche Harvey.
Miss Katherine Marshall.
Miss Mabel Baldwin.

There has been an average attendance of twenty-eight at the meetings. The largest attendance was Saturday evening, November 9, 39; the smallest 16, on Sunday evening, October 20. Seven different anthems have been sung at the Sunday services and three of these have been repeated.

In closing we wish to thank Dr. Williams and Mr. Havens for their kind help during the past three months and also Mrs. Marshall, Miss Hughes and Mr. Stevens for helping in the Christmas music.

Respectfully submitted,
HATTIE LOIS TODD,
Secretary.

The total amount collected by the Treasurer in the form of dues to December 31, was $4.60.

Respectfully submitted,
H. F. MALLORY,
President.

GIRLS' FIDELITY.

The regular meeting of the Girls' Fidelity for the month of February, was held at the home of Mrs. Perkins, 6203 Princeton avenue, Tuesday evening, February 4. Fourteen girls were present, that being the average attendance. This number included two visitors, Miss Edna Hartung and Miss Gertrude Minne, who we hope will soon become members of the organization. Supper was served at 6:30 and it was, to say the least, one of the best suppers ever given by the Fidelity. It might be well to add here that Mrs. Perkins' 'scalloped oysters are fully as good as her Boston baked beans.

The topic of the evening was "Indians" and after several articles had been read relating to their customs, etc., Miss Van Fleet told us many interesting things about Indians in general and the Hopi Indians in particular and also showed us some of the things made by them. At 9 o'clock Mrs. Perkins politely told us it was time to go home and the meeting adjourned forthwith.

FLORETTA SOLTOW, Secretary.

THE WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Our society has been rather handicapped during the month of January by that dreadful scourge la grippe, which has held many of our members in its clutches. Then not having our regular meetings every second week has made us seem rather dull. But nevertheless those who have been in attendance have not been idle and considerable work has been accomplished and good working plans laid out.

It is largely owing to the active and untiring energy of our President, Mrs. Williams, and her committee of faithful women as aids that the "church social" on the thirty-first of January was such a success. Excellent and bountiful refreshments were provided and enjoyed by over two hundred guests in spite of the inclement weather. In this connection we must mention the beautiful generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Newton, who contributed all the cream for the coffee and all the milk for the oyster scallop.

This means much as a saving of our society funds. We do greatly appreciate their kindness and extend our most grateful thanks. We certainly do miss some of our absent members; our beloved Madam Pickett, who has not been with us since Thanksgiving time on account of her accident, Mrs. H. N. Smith, who is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Swift at Dayton, Ohio; also Mrs. W. S. Smith, whose illness has kept her shut in for many weeks. We are glad to report a visible improvement and want all our dear absentees to know we think of them and pray for them, and are looking forward to the sunshine of their presence amongst us, we hope, in the near future.

Now, dear women of our church and society, just please see that your families all keep dates open the evening of February 13. Such good and pleasant things are to be pleasantly set before you that we want a large attendance and can assure you a royal good time.

G. E. J.

Church Life

Published monthly by the Home Publishing Co., 135 North Boulevard, Oak Park, Ill.

Entered as second class mail matter at Post-office, Oak Park, Ill.

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Mrs. L. H. Smith.....The Ladies'Benevolent
Rev. R. R. Kennan.....Home Department
Mr. Robert Leland.....Christian Endeavor
Edith Gale..Young Ladies' Missionary Society
Miss Elizabeth Lingle.....Sunday School
Dr. A. K. de Blois.....Pastor's Message, etc.
Ernest Hartung.....Lorimer Baraca

Subscription price, fifty cents a year. Remittances and changes in address should be sent to Mr. Kennan.

Matter for publication should be sent, on the first day of each month, to Rev. R. R. Kennan, 3226 Rhodes avenue.

Prompt payments of subscriptions to the Church Life will be much appreciated and will help to make the wheels run smoothly.

Pews or sittings in the church may be obtained from the pew committee, Messrs. M. J. Piercey, J. Gorton Marsh, Webster Tomlinson, or Clifford H. Williams at the close of any church service. Diagrams will be found near the door.

It is the plan of the Editor to give a receipt to every subscriber to the Church Life for payments made, and if such payments are not thus acknowledged within a reasonable time subscribers will confer a favor by notifying the Editor of the fact. Money sometimes gets lost in the mails or otherwise and a little prompt attention at the time will obviate differences of opinion at a later date. Kindly notice also the date to which you are credited on the receipt and have it corrected if wrong.

MEN'S LEAGUE.

This being the first article since the December CHURCH LIFE (the January issue being given over to the annual reports almost entirely) it will be well here to state some annual report figures of the Rooms Committee, under Mr. William Raymond as chairman.

This report shows the average attendance of the Bible Class to have been twenty-eight during the past year, which is three better than the year before. The largest attendance was 42 and the smallest, 17. This is not as high as the figures ought to be, but by persistency and faithfulness they can easily be increased by means of invitations personally given by our members and their continuance in this each Sunday.

When one looks over a Sunday's audience one can see no reason why, when so many are in the audience that there should not be a larger Bible Class even than we now have, and if we all will go after strangers and others of our church, who do not come in, we soon will have a much larger Bible Class, perhaps 75 or 100 which is nearer the figure we should have.

Toward an increase the membership committee, under the able direction of Mr. Robert Leland, is now carrying on a campaign with circular letters or cards using the voters' list as a mailing list, and judging by the attendance of 250 at the recent entertainment on February 4, it nets good results and will likely be a very productive means of an increased membership for our League. Six hundred cards were sent out.

The Bible Class meets every Sunday morning at 12:15 o'clock, immediately following church service Sunday morning. Sunday School teachers will find this an ideal opportunity to get added light on the Sunday School lesson for the folowing Sunday as the Men's League Bible Class studies the lesson for one Sunday ahead, instead of the lesson of that Sunday.

On the evening of December 23 the ushers (all of whom are members of the League) held a banquet at nearby banquet rooms. With our Pastor, Dr. de Blois, and the newly appointed chief usher, Dr. Spinney, we discussed various problems of ushering and means of improving the ushering still more. It is hoped to have a meeting every so often to discuss these matters.

On the evening of February 4, Tuesday, the League held its regular monthly social evening. It was very gratifying to note the splendid attendance of 250 as a result of the work of the Membership Committee, in sending out 600 cards to men on the voting list.

President Trude and Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Social Committee, had gotten up their usual fine program. A Miss Marshall of California, a contralto vocalist of fine ability, rendered two solos and every one was much pleased by her kindly responding to encores. Miss Marshall has a splendid voice of fine range and quality. Mr. William A. Peterson, who has a large nursery business in the city and also is President of the Presbyterian Union, spoke to us upon the topic of "Modern and Up-to-Date Religion."

He emphasized the necessity of person-

work, prayer, harmony and of not getting religion by the correspondence method. His address was worded in a typically, energetically and thoroughly American manner and gave a most interesting talk, which all greatly enjoyed.

Then came one, well known among the Baptists and President of the Baptist Brotherhood, and also related to our Mr. Robert Ellis. This was Mr. Walter Gillespie. We were glad to welcome him as well as Mr. Peterson and Miss Marshall.

He spoke on "Religion of the New or Coming Decade." He remarked on the effect of the lack of spirituality, citing as an example Rome and Greece, which, though they survived for a time, later fell, as history records. He also pointed out that love of money and power and position is the root of all evil.

He recommended the reading of two books, one entitled, "Aliens and Americans," by Dr. H. B. Grose, a Baptist, and also "Supreme Things," by Dr. McClure. He also stated that the three points necessary to development were:

1. Physical.
2. Mental.
3. Moral.

He would add *spiritual* to make perfection.

He spoke in words that showed deep study and delving deep into books of authentic authorship, for information of which it is evident he has a large store. His address was much enjoyed and appreciated as the hearers showed by close attention and hearty applause as was also the case with all on the program.

We also had the pleasure of listening to ——— of Boston, who recited selections, humorous and serious, with excellent ability and spirit. With a skill few possess, she portrayed the characters of her selections, some humorous, some serious and all true to life. And so truly did she do it, that it seemed almost as though these several people must be present.

She was heartily deserving of the hearty applause she received and very kindly responded to encores which still further increased the enjoyment.

After the program, refreshments of sandwiches, coffee and cake were served, which were delicious and much appreciated, and the League extends hearty thanks to those who so kindly prepared the refreshments.

The League also wishes to thank those who so kindly took part in the program and to thank them most heartily.

On the evening of Friday, February 21, the Amoret Henson Guild, which is composed of the Young Ladies of our church, will give a Colonial and Gibson Picture Entertainment similar to the one of two or three years ago, and that it will be a success goes without saying. It is hoped that in view of the fact that the young ladies are of our own church, and also the additional fact that they have for several years assisted in serving the Men's League banquet (annual one), that the members of our League will rally to their aid and attend the entertainment, and thus help the young ladies in return. Turn about is fair play. Miss Leila Ahrens is in charge. Tickets may be had of young ladies of the Guild, or of the Secretary of the Men's League, Frank W. Gale. Tickets are 25 cents.

Men's League Bible Class meets every Sunday morning after church service. Time, 12:15 o'clock and close at 1 p. m. sharp.

(Signed) FRANK W. GALE,
Department Editor Men's League.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

The January meeting of the Amoret Henson Guild was a very interesting and important one. After a good supper the young ladies listened to a fine and instructive talk on "The Poetry of Longfellow" by Dr. Nathaniel Butler of the University of Chicago. That and two piano solos by Miss Henderson furnished the interesting part of the program. The important part was the announcement of the entertainment, to be given the evening of February 21, in which all the members of the Guild are expected to take part. The entertainment will consist of pictures posed by Mrs. Abbie Birdsall Phillips. Many of these will be in Colonial costume. The tickets are only 25 cents and for a little extra charge refreshments will be served. We want this to be a great success, and the Guild assures its friends that it will be well worth the price to attend.

FLORENCE RAYMOND,
Department Editor.

JOURNAL OF THE CHURCH.

December 1, Sunday—Preaching by the pastor. Topic: "The Simple Truth," and "The Man Who Stumbles." Special meetings begun at Raymand Mission.

December 2, Monday—Teachers' Training class.

December 4, Wednesday—Missionary meeting. Topic: "East China—Notable Baptist Beginning."

December 6, Friday—Annual meeting of Ladies' Benevolent Society. Mission class of C. E.

December 7, Saturday—Choral Club.

December 8, Sunday—Sermon by the pastor. Topics: "The Moral Perils of the Middle-Aged Man," and "Certain Wealth of the Higher Sort."

December 9, Monday—Teachers' Training class.

December 11, Wednesday—Church prayer meeting. Topic: "Christ's Demands on Busy People." Mark 1:16-20.

December 13, Friday—Woman's Mission Circle. Annual praise service. Program with address by Joseph Clark, of Africa. C. E. Mission Study class in evening.

December 14, Saturday—Choral Club.

December 15, Sunday—Preaching by the pastor. Topics: "The Discovery of the Cross," and "A Peculiar Christmas Proclamation." Baptism in the evening.

December 16, Monday—Meeting of Pastor's Aid. Teachers' Training class.

December 18, Wednesday—Prayer meeting, topic: "Giving or Entertainments, Which?" Ezra 4:3; 3 John 1:8; Acts 4:31-35; Prov. 3:9; 2 Cor. 8:1-7, 9:7.

December 20, Friday—Regular meeting of Ladies' Benevolent Society. C. E. Mission Study class.

December 21, Saturday—Choral Club

December 22, Sunday—Preaching by the pastor. Topic: "The Light of the Star." The evening program was of Christmas music with a brief sermon.

December 23, Monday—Teachers' Training class. Raymond Christmas cantata.

December 24, Tuesday—Christmas entertainment by the Sunday School. A Christmas cantata was presented.

December 27, Friday—Church prayer meeting. Topic: "Treasurer of Riches in Christ." Matt. 13:44-46. A continuation also of the previous week's discussion.

December 28, Saturday—Choral Club.

December 29, Sunday—Preaching by the pastor. Topics: "The Gospel of Experience," and "The Sealed Record and the Open Book."

December 30, Monday—Meeting of Pastor's Aid.

December 31, Tuesday—Watch-night meeting from 9:00 till 12:00 p. m.

Jan. 3—Friday—Ladies' Benevolent Society, regular meeting.

Jan. 4—Saturday—Choral Club.

Jan. 5—Sunday—Sermons by the Pastor. Topics: "The Glory of the Living Church," and "A Startling Statement for the Modern Man."

Jan. 8—Wednesday—Annual Church Business Meeting. Hearing of Reports and Election of Officers.

Jan. 10—Friday—The Woman's Mission Circle held its monthly meeting.

Jan. 11—Choral Club Meeting.

Jan. 12—Sunday—Preaching by Pastor de Blois. Topics: "Folly or Faith When the Lord Walks With Us?" and "The Path of Joy and Crash of Doom."

Jan. 13—Monday—Teachers' Training Class.

Jan. 15—Wednesday—Annual Church Business Meeting adjourned and continued. Hearing of Reports.

Jan. 17—Friday—Women's Benevolent Society, regular meeting.

Jan. 18—Saturday—Choral Club.

Jan. 19—Sunday—Address in the morning by Baron Uxkull of Russia. Sermon in the evening by the Pastor. Topic: "Jesus and Judas in Chicago."

Jan. 20—Monday—Christian Endeavor Mission Study Class. Sunday School Teachers' Training Class.

Jan. 22—Wednesday—Church Prayer Meeting. Topic: "China." Miss Elgie, a returned Missionary, spoke.

Jan. 23—Thursday—An Embroidery Tea at the home of Mrs. S. A. Tolman, 2031 Prairie avenue.

Jan. 25—Saturday—Choral Club.

Jan 26—Sunday—Sermons by Dr. de Blois. Topics: "The Lure of the Home Land" and "Who Shall be Saved and Who Shall Be Damned?" Baptism in the morning.

Jan. 27—Monday—Amoret Henson Guild, supper and social; address by Prof. Butler. Sunday School Teachers' Training Class. Christian Endeavor Mission Study Class.

Jan. 29—Wednesday—Church Covenant Meeting. "How Christ Helped Me to Conquer Temptation." 1 Samuel 24:1-17.

Jan. 31—Friday—Mid-winter Church Social. A large attendance, with a good time.

FOLLOW ON.

Down in the valley with my Savior would I go,
Where the flow'rs are blooming and the sweet waters flow;
Ev'ry where He leads me I would follow, follow on,
Walking in His footsteps till the crown be won.

Refrain—
Follow, follow, I would follow Jesus;
Anywhere, ev'rywhere, I would follow on.
Follow, follow, I would follow Jesus;
Ev'rywhere He leads me I would follow on.

Down in the valley with my Savior I would go,
Where the storms are sweeping and the dark waters flow;
With His hand to lead me I will never, never fear,
Dangers cannot frighten me if my Lord is near.

Just a dainty basket filled with autumn bloom,
Yet it brought the sunshine to a darkened room;
All the week seem'd brighter for those shining hours,
Laden with the sweetness of the smiling flowers.

Refrain—
Let us all be helpful; let us live to bless;
Little deeds of kindness magic pow'r possess.
Scatter beams of sunshine, o'er the darkest way,
Soon the midnight gloom shall change to brightest day.

Just a sweet bird carol trilled upon the air,
Yet a heart was lightened of its load of care;
Like a heavenly message seemed that little strain;
Sunshine, hope and courage all come back again.

Just a glad "Good Morning" on a day so drear,
Yet as if by magic skies seemed bright and clear;
And the one who heard it passed along her way
Smiling at the prospect of a happy day.

When we hear wrong of a dear friend or the friend does not do just exactly as we expected him to do, how ready we stand to defend that friend, no matter how strong the argument. Yet, when our dearest friend, Jesus, sees fit to put us to a disadvantage or when He does not answer a prayer for which our heart is longing, how quickly we turn away and forget that everything He does is for our own good. How quickly our faith fails us; how apt to judge and how slow to remember that "He doeth all things well." Despite our great wrong in judging Him he clings to us still. If He should turn from us when we do wrong as quickly as we turn from Him when our faith is shaken, what a dark and dreary world we would have to tread. Faith is one of the foundations on which a Christian's life is founded.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath and his native air.

THE BEST IS YET TO BE.

By W. Kirk Bryce.

Colossians 1:5: "For the hope laid up for you in heaven."

Hope makes future good a certainty, even in this world. It draws aside the veil and shows us our future home, situated in a lovely country where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying. The hope of heaven does not weaken us in the common duty of to-day; it has the very opposite effect of making us faithful in our service so as to endure unto the end and gain the prize. The thought of heaven in our minds continually is an aid to holy living. "He that hath this hope in him purifieth himself even as he is pure."

The hope of heaven is a driving force and a cleansing power.

It keeps our lives going amid life's common trials.

If a Christian is at all sensitive as he goes about, he sees sin reigning on all sides; the god of pleasure is at present enthroned and Christ is despised; sin is having its day, but blessed be God this state of affairs is not to last always. Christ will yet reign; the day may be far away; but each passing hour brings the triumph nearer. In the eighth chapter of Romans we see the fall of nature and the supremacy of sin; but then we also read that nature was subjected in hope, and because of this and the power of the gospel, we toil on, certain of victory; but turning from sin in general to our own particular experiences in life, there is much to discourage us.

In family life there are many anxieties of childhood which make a mother worn, tired and just a little disheartened. There are also the perplexities of business life which a man has to carry in his own heart. He dare not tell out his feelings to any one or else he might lose his credit. He is forced by circumstances into lonely ways, where his faith is tested to the very uttermost, and it needs a strong man to go alone and never be discouraged. If I speak to any such to-day I would lovingly say: "Hope on, hope ever, do not despair; if you just keep going on, the brighter day will dawn." We are apt to think at times that the best of our life is behind us. Do not believe it. The best is yet to be. Heaven is yours beyond, even if life has its disappointments here. The path grows brighter and brighter towards the perfect day. There are grand days in store for all of us, even in this world, if we abound in hope.

If we hope, we win; if we despair, we lose the joy of living.

Hope is the star when the night is dark,
Guiding the travelers' way;
Hope is the staff when the hill is steep,
Helping him day by day.

Hope is the hand of the unseen God
Pointing to blissful heights;
Hope is the song the victors sing
As they conquer in the strife.

If friends are few and you feel alone,
Hope for the brighter day;
And life is hard with many a toil,
More than you care to say.
Tho' dark, tho' rough, tho' steep your part,
Hope on, hope on, and lose not heart.

—*The Standard.*

TRAVELED HANDS.

In the course of our lives, says the statistican, although we write many letters, we have not the remotest idea of the distance our hand covers while traveling over the paper.

According to him, the average man or woman writes about thirty words a minute, which, with the up-and-down strokes and curves, represent something like five yards, or three hundred yards an hour. A person, therefore, using his pen for say two hours a day can boast that his right hand has journeyed a distance of one hundred and twenty miles.

And this, it should be remembered, refers only to those who write, comparatively speaking, little. When we come to the professional element, journalists, clerks, and so forth, who work six or seven hours a day, the figures become startling. —*Gentlewoman.*

"As long as I could not forgive him," said a young man of an enemy the other day, "he had a greater power over me than I had over myself. I was determined that that should not last, so I bent myself to change it, and to throw off the yoke. Today I forgive him and am free from him, through God's help.' His analysis of the situation was right. We are held in bondage to bitterness and corroding thoughts until we can forgive and go free, desiring no revenge, putting aside injuries, filling the place where bitterness once brooded with peace and new thoughts of helpfulness and happiness. Christ commands us to forgive, not only for our enemy's sake, but for our own, as part of our Christian freedom and joy.—*Foreword.*

HOW A REVIVAL OFTEN BEGINS.

REV. WILLIAM JAMES SLY.

A true revival of religion begins in someone's heart. It begins in an acknowledgment of sin. Peter, during the early Pentacostal days, said: "Repent ye and turn again that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." What does the church of Christ stand for in any community but to say to all in that community, "Repent ye?" But if the members of the church, by their lives, testimony and service, are not convicting sinners they stand condemned before the world. We all know well, and the world knows well, that the life of many a person whose name is upon the church roll is an exceedingly poor commentary upon the profession made, and it cannot be expected of the frankly worldly wise that they will be quick to turn to God while church members, in some quarters, act as they do. One of the sad things in a true pastor's life is that instead of receiving the helpful aid and assistance of members of the church in saying to the unsaved "Repent ye," he must spend his time in dealing with them or in endeavoring to defend them and their professions before the world. But in the last analysis there is no defense, for if the church is not condemning sinners of their sins, it stands condemned of sin itself before both God and the world. Many a revival has broken out when a member of the church who has been living notoriously sinful among his fellow men or neighbors will go to a fellowman or neighbor and confess his sin and neglect; many a revival of religion has begun when two members of the church that have been at outs with each other and have not spoken with each other will seek each other out and ask forgiveness of each other and be reconciled; many a revival has broken out when a backslider who has gone to God and confessed his sin comes into the assembly with a new testimony; many a revival has broken out when a man or woman that has been doing next to nothing in the vineyard of the Lord will go to God and say: "Here am I, O Lord, send me," and then goes and does it; how many a revival has been brought about by some invalid that has wrestled with God in prayer and would not let Him go till the revival came; how many a revival has come when two or three have met together and prayed "O Lord, revie us again that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?" It is said the report of a rifle has started an avalanche! Who knows what shall start a revival?

THE STRENGTH OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

BY ROBERT E. SPEER, A. M.

"Say each of the thirteen million Sunday School scholars should be trained," says Dr. Goucher, President of the Woman's College in Baltimore, "to give, as a minimum, but one cent a week for the world's evangelization, it would amount in a year to nearly seven million dollars. This gift from the Sunday Schools would be sufficient to provide for the entire budget which all the Protestant churches of this country are now expending for the evangelization of the world, outside of the United States, and leave the churches free to use the consecrated gifts of their adult members to strengthen and extend the work of their missionary societies as is so urgently needed."

It is by the small gifts of the great multitude that the greatest things are done. When the young people are enlisted to do what they can it will be found that they can do enough to change the world. Last year in the Methodist Episcopal Church (North) alone, the Sunday Schools gave four hundred and eighty-four thousande dollars to home and foreign missions.

It is not their gifts alone that are needed by the Saviour. He wants their hearts and the service which they can render him. It is when all boys and girls who love Christ live faithfully for him and bear their own natural witness to him, that his gospel will cover the world. No one is too young or too inexperienced to serve Christ and so to serve him as to influence others to love him and to give their lives to him. That we are not young, is no reason why we should not begin to serve Christ at the age we have reached. That we are young is no reason for putting off serving him.

Very few eyes are strong enough to pierce the future, or to see clearly through tangled arguments about free will and fate. But every boy and girl has eyes quite equal to seeing what ought to be done, each day, at home, in school, and in social things. It is fair, then, that each boy or girl shall be judged by his or her daily record. A lad who says that he cannot understand the difficult places in the Bible, and yet goes on shirking his lessons and disobeying his parents, shows his folly in his excuse quite as much as in his bad habits. —*Sel.*

FALSE CLAIM OF THE LIQUOR DEALERS.

Fifty thousand big posters are being distributed by the liquor dealers throughout the city of Chicago and Cook County, according to the *Journal* of January 24. Copies have already appeared on the backs of the menu cards of many of the leading restaurants and hotels in the city

CLAIMS OF POSTERS.

Market furnished by liquor business:

Farm products consumed	$110,000,000
Manufactured products used	150,000,000
Fuel burned	5,000,000
Labor employed	54,000,000
Freight and express	20,000,000
Revenue: Tax and license	139,000,000

That prohibition will (1) Destroy market. (2) Greatly increase the number of unemployed. (3) Overload the taxpayer. (4) Precipitate the greatest financial crisis in history.

THE WHOLE TRUTH.

The above sounds formidable, but the whole truth shows their claims to be utterly untenable.

Total market in the U. S.:

Farm products, $7,412,000,000; liquor dealers using less than 1½ per cent.

Manufactured products, $14,802,000,000; liquor dealers using 1 per cent.

Fuel (coal alone) $1,138,000,000; liquor dealers using 4 and 10 one hundredths per cent.

Labor employed, (manufacturers only) $2,-611,000,000; liquor dealers using only 2 per cent.

Freight (alone) $1,450,000,000; liquor dealers using only 1 per cent.

Revenue—The cost of *crime alone due to the drink* traffic, is from 150 to 200 million dollars *or more than the entire revenue paid in.*

(1.) The United States market would scarcely feel the destruction of the liquor traffic, so small a per cent is directed toward that industry.

(2.) If the 1½ billion dollars spent for intoxicating liquors were spent for legitimate products from 2 to 10 times as many laborers would be required, to say nothing of the impetus that would be given to every line of honorable business.

(3.) Experience shows the spuriousness of this statement.

(4.) Every community where prohibition has been given a fair trial shows a remarkable decrease in the criminal and pauper classes, an increase of proportion in public schools, greater per capita bank deposits, a rise in real estate values and increased demand for dry goods and groceries.

The Kansas City, Missouri *Times* puts it very pointedly:

"The utterly untenable notion that the liquor traffic helps a community or commonwealth in a commercial way and makes it more attractive will give way in the test of actual experience. For a profligate circulation of money there will be more and more substituted the substantial dependence of people with money for every sort of sound and right investment."

MARY F. BALCOMB.
Gen. Sec'y. Y. P. C. T. U.

GENERAL SURVEY OF BATTLEFIELD.

ACROSS THE WATER.

The Scandinavians are the most abstemious of all Europeans.

(1.) In *Sweden* the country districts are prohibition by local option. A number of the cities are also taking steps to do away with the dispensaries.

(2.) In *Norway* 33 cities out of 59 have prohibition.

(3.) In *Finland* the diet passed a straight prohibition law, Oct. 31.

(4.) The *Faro Islands* have all separately voted out the saloon, the total vote being 1,550 for prohibition and 65 against.

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

(1.) On January 1, 1907, there were three prohibition states, Maine, Kansas and N. Dakota, with a population of 2,886,760.

On January 1, 1908, there were six states having prohibition with a total population of 9,145,492, or a population more than three times greater than the previous year.

(2.) There are fourteen other states where prohibiiton campaigns are already under way and victory reasonably sure at the next session of their respective legislatures: Mississippi, S. Carolina, Florida, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, District of Columbia, Tennessee, N. Carolina, Arkansas, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri and Delaware.

(3.) There are more than eighty cities in the United States under prohibition, having an aggregate population of more than 2,200,000 and averaging over 25,000 each.

Four of these cities have a population of 100,000 or over; Kansas City, 100,000; Birmingham, 100,000; Worcester, 130,000; Atlanta, 160,000.

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P. M.
4:00 Feb. 8 and 15) MR. HUGH CORK of the International S. S. Association. "Reaching the Children."
(Feb. 22) MR. H. W. FROST, Home Director of the China Inland Mission.
5:00 A. P. FITT. "Studies in Soul Winning."
6:00 Luncheon.

P. M.
6:30 C. H. COULTER, Praise Service.
7:00 JOHN H. HUNTER. "The International S. S. Lesson."
8:00 DR. A. C. DIXON. "Through the Bible With a Practical Purpose."
9:00 Prayer for World Wide Revival.

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A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL BY ST. JOHN.

Of the four Gospels, John's is the only one which sets out with a theory to be supported by the narrative to come. The other evangelists recapitulate the facts of Christ's life, or a portion of them, simply—one might say—from the historian's point of view: one by one the incidents are detailed, the discourses reported, each incident and each discourse being taken as practically an isolated thing; and while it is of course impossible to tell the story of Christ without suggesting certain doctrines and inferences, the writers leave it at that, allowing the doctrines to emerge out of the story as they may, not at all arranging the story to support the doctrines. With John's Gospel the case stands differently altogether. His doctrines, his theory, is clear in his mind before his pen begins to move. He possesses, indeed, more even than what would be commonly understood by a doctrine about Christ: he possesses what one might term a whole system of philosophy whereof Christ is the culminating point and wherein Christ is the supreme figure; and the prologue to his Gospel, as contained in the first eighteen verses, indicates what it is. In these verses he sets forth the theory about Christ which his future writing is to illustrate: they form the text, as it were, of which the following Gospel is the expanded discourse. Towards the end of the book, when nearly all the tale has been told, John sums up again, in briefer form, the thesis to which he has devoted his labor; and, as we have seen, this is the summary he then constructs, "Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but there are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name."..... His Gospel has been written with the set purpose of throwing the divineness of Christ and His relation as Son to God the Father, into bold relief before the reader's eye. With careful discrimination John has chosen out the incidents in the life of Jesus which, as the reader apprehends them, will repeatedly constrain him to say, "Here is the divineness in this Jesus revealing itself once more. This Jesus must be the Christ, the Son of God."—*From Henry W. Clark's "The Christ from Without and Within."* Published by Fleming H. Revell Co.

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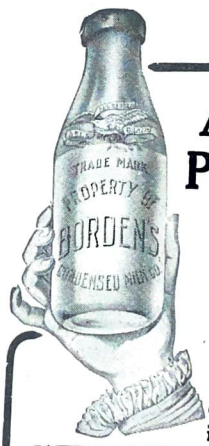
The little I have seen of this world, and known of the history of mankind, teaches me to look upon their errors in sorrow, not in anger. When I take the history of one poor heart that has sinned and suffered, and represent to myself the struggles and temptations it passed through, the brief pulsations of joy, the tears of regret, the feebleness of purpose, the scorn of the world that has little charity, the desolation of the soul's sanctuary and threatening voices within, health gone, happiness gone, I would fain leave the erring soul of my fellow-man with him from whose hands it came.—*Thomas Chalmers.*

"Sympathy is sweet," quoted one, but a friend quickly answered: "Yes, if it is imported; the home manufactured is worse than useless, it is deadly." There were both truth and wisdom in the playful words. Whoever begins to sympathize with himself in the sense of pitying his own hardships and misfortunes and commiserating his own lot, is indulging a mood that not only wastes time, but weakens the spirit and destroys courage. Keep pity for others, never waste it on self.



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W. C. T. U. NOTES.

MRS. EMILY M. HILL, PRESIDENT.

Department of Moral Education.

Moral education is the more recent name of the former Purity Department of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Frances E. Willard was the founder of this department and its most zealous advocate.

Since the organized liquor traffic is everywhere associated with organized vice and the use of intoxicants is largely responsible for impurity, this is legitimate work for a temperance organization. Since only the "Pure in heart shall see God" our "Christian" organization is under obligation to work for purity, that the Kingdom of Christ may be established on earth.

At the recent convention of the National Purity Federation, the W. C. T. U. was recognized as the Path-Finder for the Cause of Purity. That such a Federation is possible is largely due to the pioneer work of our organization. But even that magnificent gathering did not fully represent the present outlook for the Cause. Outside the distinctive Purity organizations a remarkable interest is shown.

A committee of Episcopalian clergymen, in a report to the Massachusetts Diocese declared: "The church cannot afford to be remiss in this every day fight against the world, the flesh and the devil. We, therefore, call upon parents to feel their sacred responsibility for judicious instruction of children as to sex and the relation of personal purity to health and happiness."

Discussion of International Medical Congresses caused the organization of societies, largely made up of physicians in most of the leading cities of the world. Their purpose is to study the problem of immortality from the standpoint of law, morals and society, as well as medicine. Dr. Prince H. Morron President of the American Society of Sanitary and Moral Prophylaxis, while calling for instruction in sexual physiology and hygiene, declares much can be done "by holding up before the young the beauty of the virtues of temperance and restraint, and the dignity of the human body as the temple of the soul." Thus a great physician indorses the contention of the W. C. T. U. that spiritual should accompany scientific instruction.

Believing with Judge Lindsey that the whole moral question among children is the most important problem that concerns the preservation of the American home, we would educate for purity through pure reverent knowledge of the universal laws of life, the establishment of high ideals and training in self control.

Our aim has been to emphasize the positive rather than the negative side of this question. But we recognize the necessity for popular education which threatens the race, hence we consider one of our best lines of effort the dissemination of the literature of the Chicago Society of Social Hygiene.

The work of the Moral Education Department of Cook County W. C. T. U. includes the circulation of literature, discussions in the regular meetings of Mother's meetings arranged by the local unions, a Cradle Roll which pledges the mother to instruct in purity, as well as temperance, and also co-operation with any enterprise that advances the purity movement.

Through the department representative, we are glad to assist in the work of the recently organized Chicago Committee against traffic in vice.

We would be glad to correspond with those whose eyes are opened to the great need of moral education and who desire to know where and how they may aid this worthy cause.

IDA EVANS HAINES,
W. C. T. U. Supt. Moral Education, Cook Co.

"The ratio of convicts rises as the saloons increase. Liquor men say that this is a mere coincidence—of the same kind possibly as a rise in the thermometer when the sun gets hot."—*Saturday Evening Post*, January 25, 1908.

We cannot live today on the strength of yesterday's food—each day has a portion of its own. Yesterday's sunshine will not light the earth today, but there is other sunshine ready each new morning. When you were in sorrow awhile ago, God came to you and comforted you in wonderful ways—through his promises, or through a human friend who brought you blessing, or through a book whose words were like a heavenly lamp pouring its light upon your darkness. When a new sorrow comes, that old comfort cannot be used again; but you will have other comfort for your new sorrow—comfort in place of the comfort which is past. No grace received from God is ever the last. The time will never come to any child of God when a grace will fade out, and no other one be ready to take its place.—*Sel.*

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